

Message Text

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72

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 EA-11 NEA-10

L-03 IO-14 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /156 R

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C - SONNENFELDT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 042133

TOSEC 273, TODEP 104, DAMASCUS AND JAKARTA ONLY ZFF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WB, FR, US, UR, UK

SUBJECT: FRENCH DEMARCHE ON BUNDESTAG PRESIDIUUM MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 37776 (B) STATE 39402 (C) STATE 36933

1. FRENCH EMBASSY COUNSELOR (MASSET) PRESENTED DEMARCHE
TO DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY 28 TO UNDERScore GROWING FRENCH
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CONCERN THAT ALLIES RISK SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN BERLIN

IF THEY DO NOT CLEARLY AND FORCEFULLY CONVEY TO FRG THAT PRESIDUM SHOULD NOT MEET IN BERLIN AT THIS TIME. MASSET SAID GOF WISHED TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH EARLIER BRITISH APPROACH TO DEPARTMENT (REF A) AND WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING US JOIN WITH FRENCH AND UK IN ORDERING FRG NOT TO HOLD PRESIDUM MEETING IN BERLIN AT THIS TIME BECAUSE IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY INOPPORTUNE TO DO SO.

2. DEPTOFF (GEORGE) REVIEWED FOR MASSET BASIS FOR US POSITION ON REPLY TO RENGAR (REF C) AND POINTED OUT THAT US HAD AGREED TO DRAFT ALLIED TEXT OF BRANDT-RENGAR LETTER WHICH IN OUR OPINION MADE CLEAR THAT ALL ALLIES INCLUDING US FELT MEETING SHOULD BE POSTPONED. HE QUESTIONED WHETHER, IN VIEW OF RAPIDLY EVOLVING SITUATION, MASSET'S INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE DEMARCHE COULD HAVE BEEN ISSUED PRIOR TO QUAI'S HAVING LEARNED THAT WE HAD ACCEPTED TEXT OF REPLY TO RENGAR (REFTEL B). MASSET COULD NOT PROVIDE ASSURANCES ON THIS MATTER, BUT HE SAID HE

BELIEVED GOF POSITION WAS THAT TEXT DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH AND FOR THAT REASON HE WAS MAKING HIS DEMARCHE. CASEY

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